

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/733,616

Examiner

Fred A. Casca

Applicant(s)

LEVY ET AL.

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to April 19, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8-17 (renumbered as 7-16 respectively) and 19-24 (renumbered as 17-22 respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Art Unit: 2617

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid. Applicant's submission filed April 19th, 2007 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Larry G. Brown on July 5, 2007.

[Begin Audit]

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 8, 12, 19, and 23 have been amended as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of providing information about a communications device, comprising the steps of:

establishing a communications connection between a first mobile communications unit and at least a second mobile communications unit; and

once the communications connection has been established and during the established communications connection, periodically transmitting from the first mobile communications unit to the second mobile communications unit a condition of at least one operational parameter of the first mobile communications unit, wherein the condition of the operational parameter provides an indication as to the ability of the first mobile communications unit to maintain the communications connection with the second mobile communications unit to periodically inform a user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit, wherein said informing step comprises the step of informing the user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit by at least one of displaying at least one icon, broadcasting at least one audio tone and causing the second mobile communications unit to vibrate, wherein the icons, audio tones and vibrations correspond to the transmitted conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the icons, the audio tones and the vibrations are distinguishable from any second icons, audio tones and vibrations that are used to display, broadcast and inform a user of a condition of operational parameters of the second mobile communications unit.

12. (previously presented) A system for providing information about a communications device, comprising:

a first mobile communications unit having at least one operational parameter; and

a second mobile communications unit, wherein a communications connection is established between the first and second mobile communications units and once the communications connection is established and during the established communications connection, at least one condition of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit is periodically transmitted from the first mobile communications unit to the second mobile communications unit,

wherein the condition of the operational parameter provides an indication as to the ability of the first mobile communications unit to maintain the communications connection with the second mobile communications unit, wherein the second mobile communications unit has a user interface for periodically informing a user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit,

wherein the user interface is a speaker, a display or a vibrator motor,
wherein the second mobile communications unit informs the user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit by displaying at least one icon on the display,
by broadcasting on the speaker at least one audio tone or by generating a vibration

through the vibrator motor, wherein the icons, the audio tones and the vibrations correspond to the transmitted conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit.

19. (currently amended) The system according to claim 12, wherein the icons, the audio tones and the vibrations are distinguishable from any second icons, audio tones and vibrations that are used to display, broadcast and inform a user of a condition of operational parameters of the second mobile communications unit.

23. (currently amended) A method of providing information about a communications device, comprising the steps of:

establishing a communications connection between a first mobile communications unit and at least a second mobile communications unit; and
once the communications connection has been established and during the established communications connection, periodically transmitting from the first mobile communications unit to the second mobile communications unit a condition of at least one operational parameter of the first mobile communications unit to inform a user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit,

wherein the condition of the operational parameter provides an indication as to the ability of the first mobile communications unit to maintain the communications connection with the second mobile communications unit to

Art Unit: 2617

periodically inform a user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit, wherein said informing step comprises the step of informing the user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit by at least one of displaying at least one icon, broadcasting at least one audio tone and causing the second mobile communications unit to vibrate, wherein the icons, audio tones and vibrations correspond to the transmitted conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit.

Claims 7 and 18 are cancelled.

[End Audit]

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6, 8-17 and 19-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to teach or suggest directly or indirectly the limitation, "periodically transmitting from the first mobile communications unit to the second mobile communications unit a condition of at least one operational parameter of the first mobile communications unit to inform a user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit, wherein the condition of the operational parameter provides an indication as to the ability of the first mobile communications unit to maintain the communications connection with the

Art Unit: 2617

second mobile communications unit to periodically inform a user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit, wherein said informing step comprises the step of informing the user of the second mobile communications unit of the conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit by at least one of displaying at least one icon, broadcasting at least one audio tone and causing the second mobile communications unit to vibrate, wherein the icons, audio tones and vibrations correspond to the transmitted conditions of the operational parameters of the first mobile communications unit”, in combination with other limitation of the independent claims 1, and 12 and 23.

The applicant has described the process notifying the user of a second mobile unit user about the operating conditions of a first mobile unit by periodically transmitting from the first mobile unit to the second mobile unit a conditional operational parameter of the first mobile unit so that the user of the second of mobile unit can be actively notified via a display unit, vibration means or icon means about the conditional parameter of the first mobile communication unit where the conditional operational parameter provides an indication as to the ability of the first mobile unit to maintain the communication connection with the second mobile communications unit.

Any comments necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany

Art Unit: 2617

the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Art Unit: 2617

Conclusion

4. Any response to this Office Action should be mailed to:

U.S Patent and Trademark Office
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or Faxed to:

571-273-8300.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fred A. Casca whose telephone number is (571) 272-7918. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid, can be reached at (571) 272-7922.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER